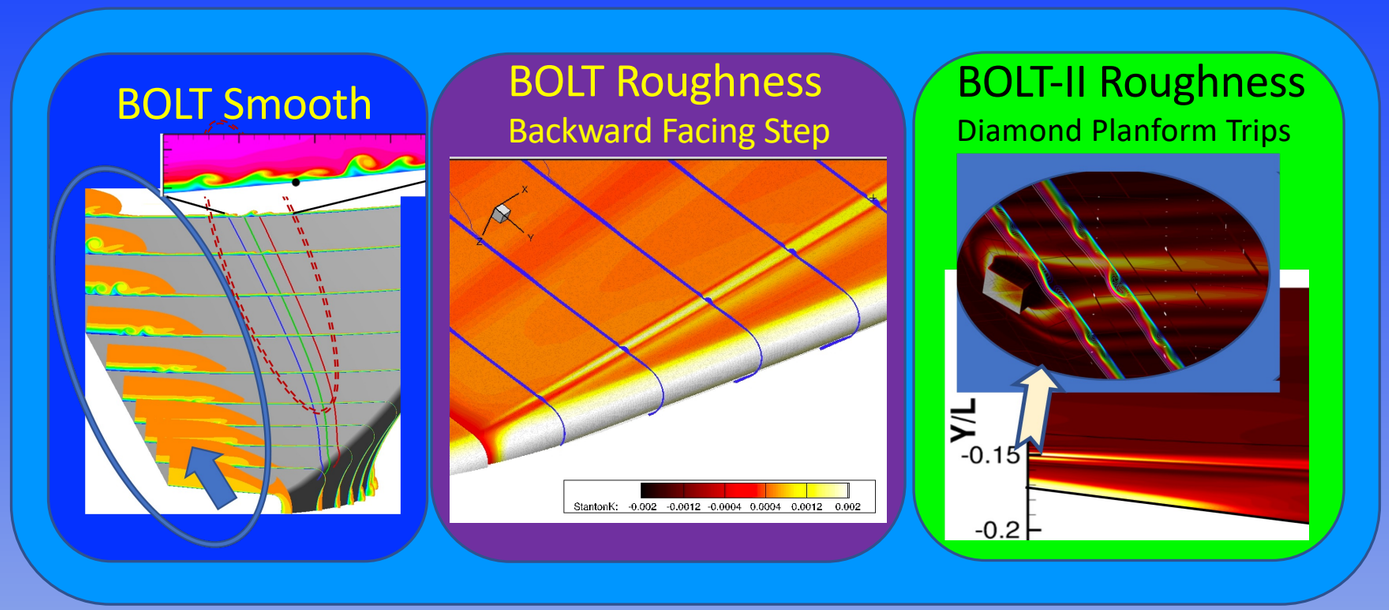
Basic State Computations and Stability Analysis for Selected BOLT-II Flight Conditions



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FD-14, BOLT-II Flight Experiment II

January 23, 2023, from 2:00 PM to 3:40 PM Eastern Time.

Introduction

- The ability to predict boundary-layer transition and flow separation is a crucial issue according to CFD Vision 2030 (Slotnick et al., NASA/CR-2014-218178, 2014)
  - Insufficient validation of BLT predictions for hypersonic configurations
  - Inadequacy of classical stability theory in many instances due to increased complexity of hypersonic transition (bluntness effects, streaks, shock-BL interactions, roughness effects on prevalent TPS)
  - CFD predictions especially critical due to limitations of ground facilities and challenges in detailed, high-frequency measurements
- BOLT/BOLT-II experiments provide a good opportunity to explore transition physics for complex configurations and to calibrate predicative tools against flight data
  - BOLT/BOLT-II flight campaigns provide unprecedented opportunity to explore transition physics for complex configurations and to calibrate the predictive tools against quality flight data
- **Objectives of present work**
  - Extend previous instability analyses to flight conditions at higher Re
  - Wake evolution behind discrete trips and comparison with preliminary flight data
  - Preliminary characterization of step-excrescence effects

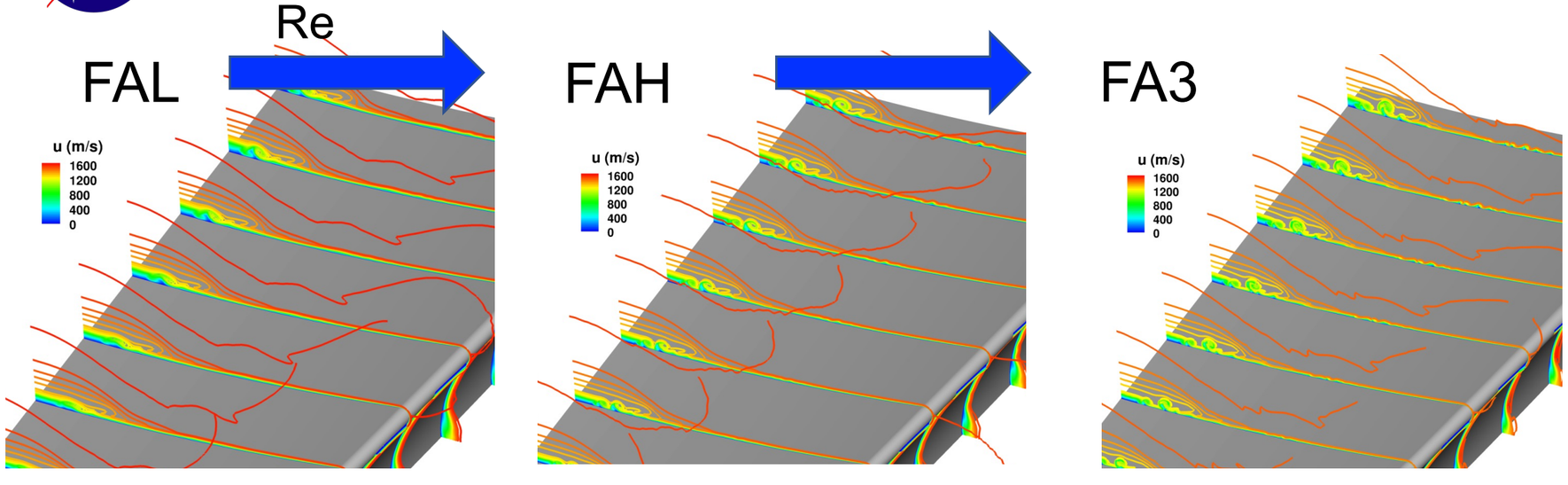
Outline

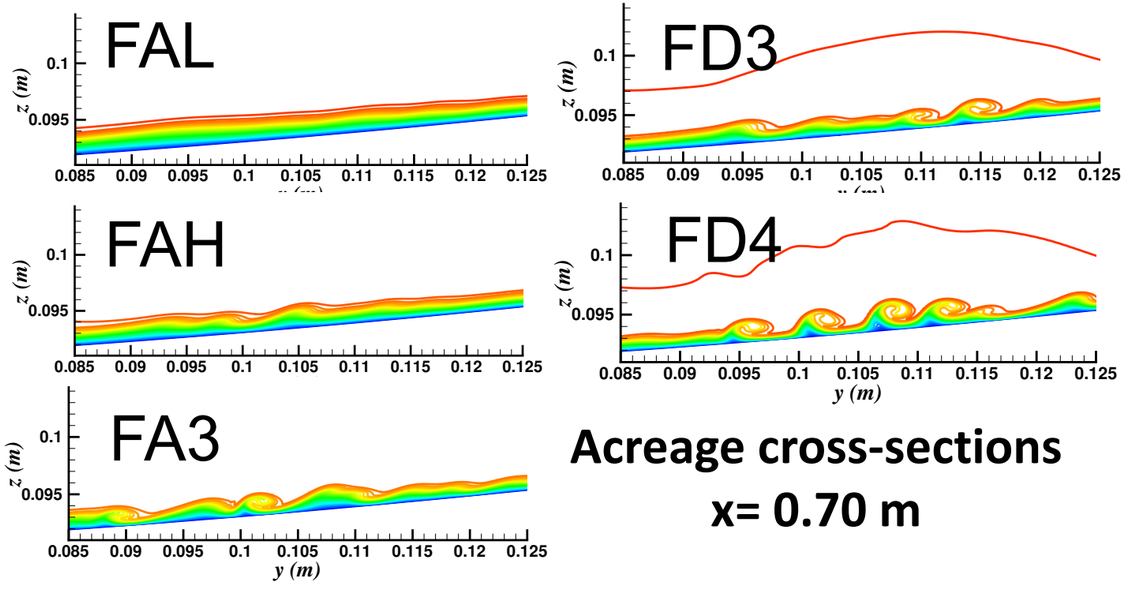
- ❑ Introduction
- ❑ Numerical details and previous results
  - ➢ See Li et al. 2020-3028, 2021-2905, 2022-1063, Choudhari et al. 2021-1207
- ❑ Basic State Features for Smooth Surface and Effect of Reynolds Number
  - ➢ Near centerline
  - ➢ Acreage region (will be impacted by surface roughness on real-world surface!)
- ❑ Stability Characteristics (α = β = 0 deg)
  - ➢ Mack's second modes (MM) and crossflow instabilities (CF) in quasihomogeneous regions
  - ➢ Streak instabilities near centerline
  - ➢ Streak instabilities in acreage region
- ❑ Effect of Step Excrescence
- ❑ Secondary Side Experiment: Effect of Discrete Trips
  - Wake evolution and disturbance growth
  - Wake evolution and comparison with preliminary data from BOLT-II flight
- ❑ Concluding Remarks

Flow Conditions: Smooth Surface BOLT (Preflight) Configuration

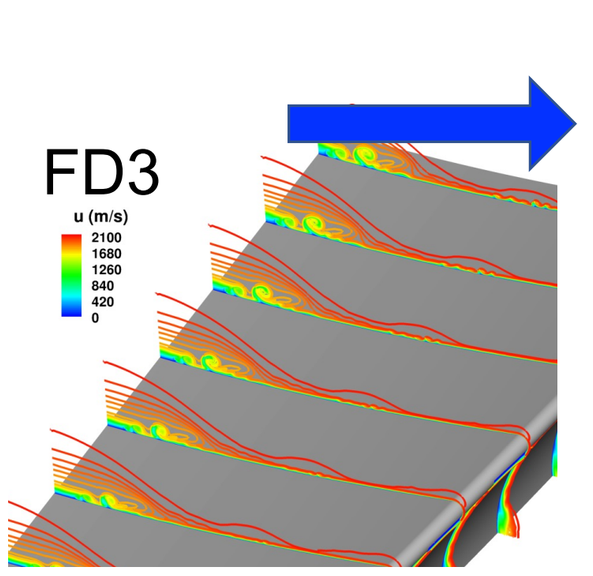
($\alpha = \beta = 0$ deg)	M	Re (10^6/m)	P (Pa)	T (K)	T_w (K)
FAL: Flight Ascent, Low Re	5.53	4.25	2.379e3	221.90	400
FAH: Flight, Ascent, High Re	5.37	6.60	3.735e3	219.09	400
BOLT-II Preliminary Flight Trajectory Flight Ascent, t = 27.8 sec	6.23	8.00	3.751e3	212.70	355
FA3: Flight, Ascent, Higher Re	5.25	9.98	5.690e3	216.65	400
FD3: Flight, Descent, Higher Re	7.36	9.98	4.108e3	218.48	400
FD4: Flight, Descent, Highest Re	7.36	11.53	4.717e3	217.76	400

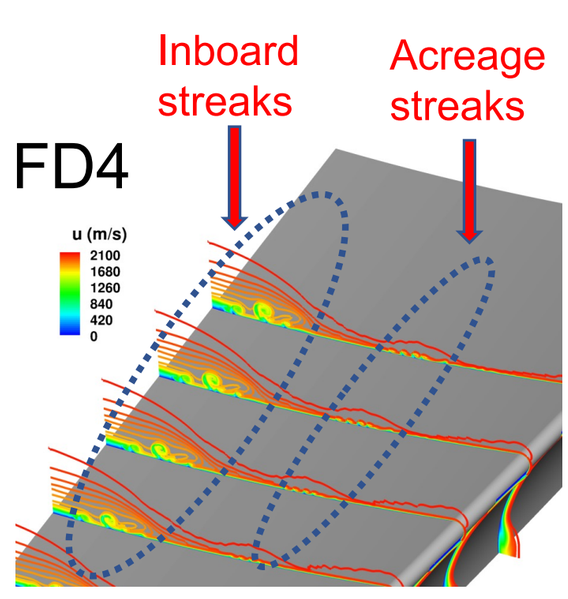
Basic State Features: Reynolds-Number Effect





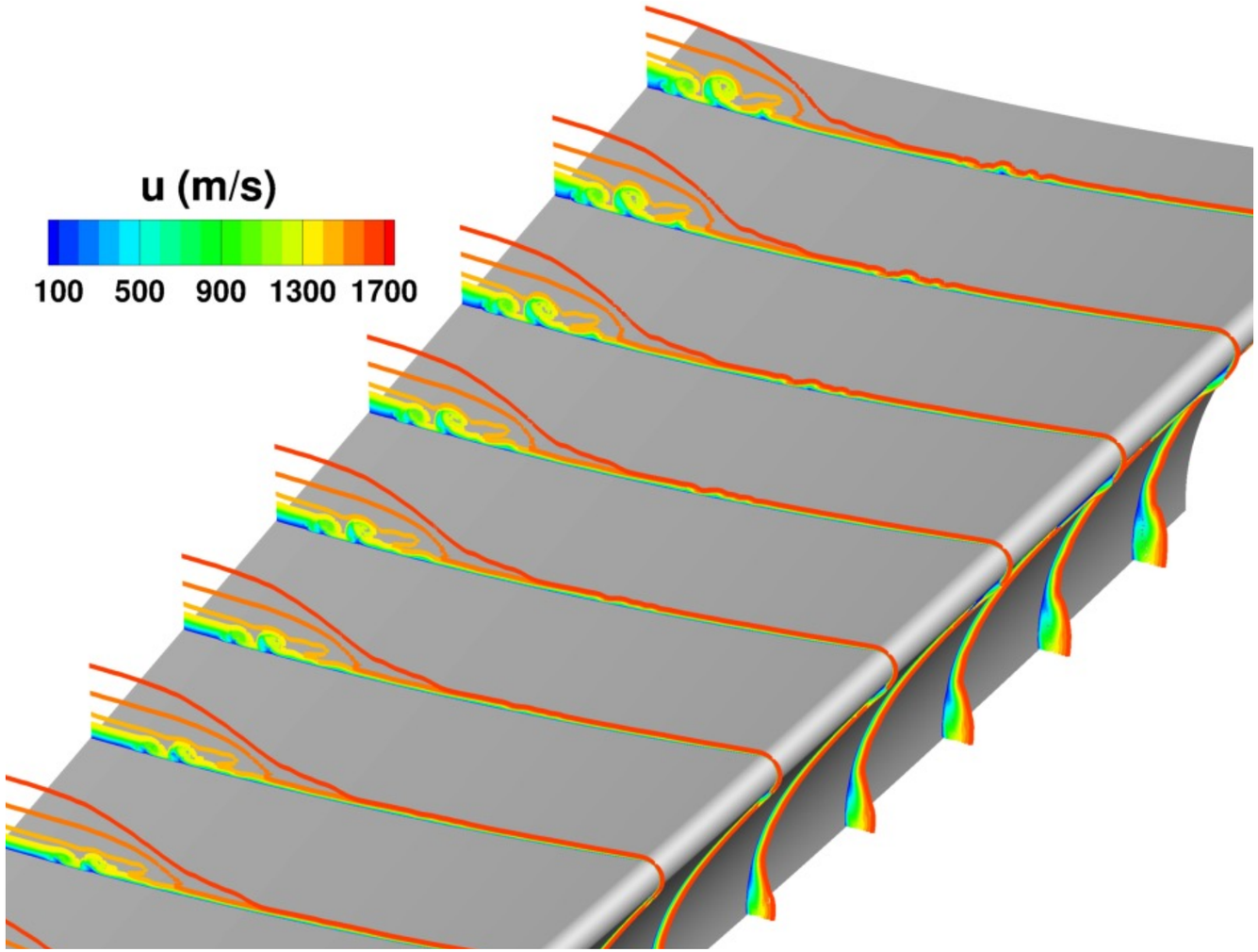
Acreage cross-sections
x= 0.70 m



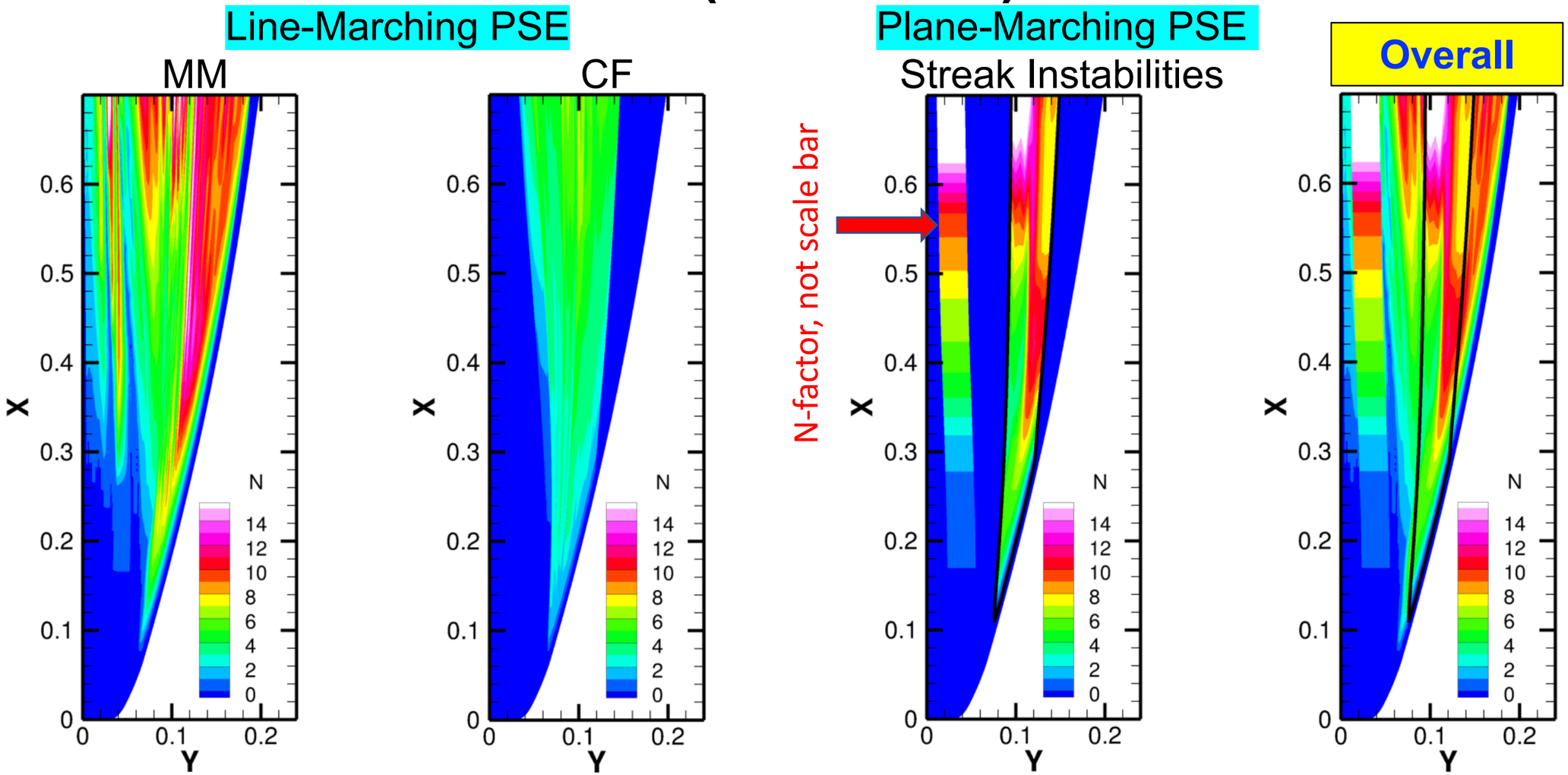


- Increasing Re → stronger streaks

BOLT-II Preliminary Trajectory (t = 27.90 sec.)



Overall N-Factor Envelope over Primary Test Surface (Case FD4)

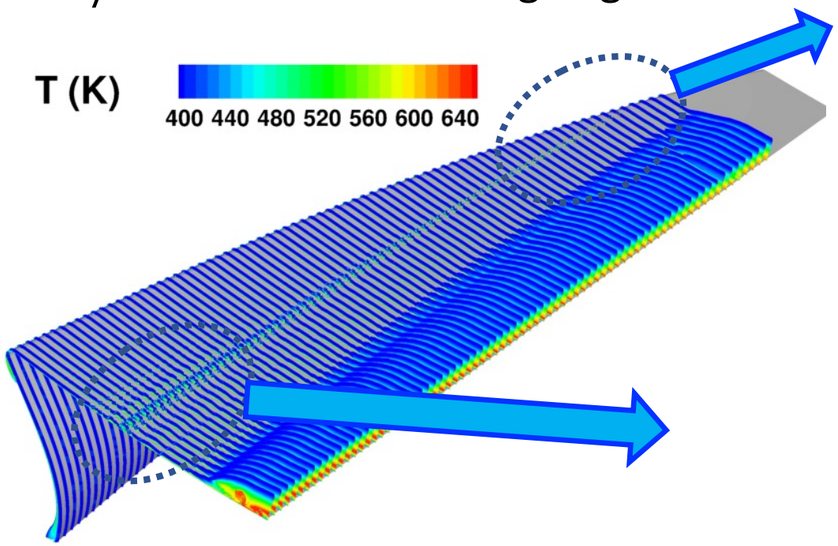


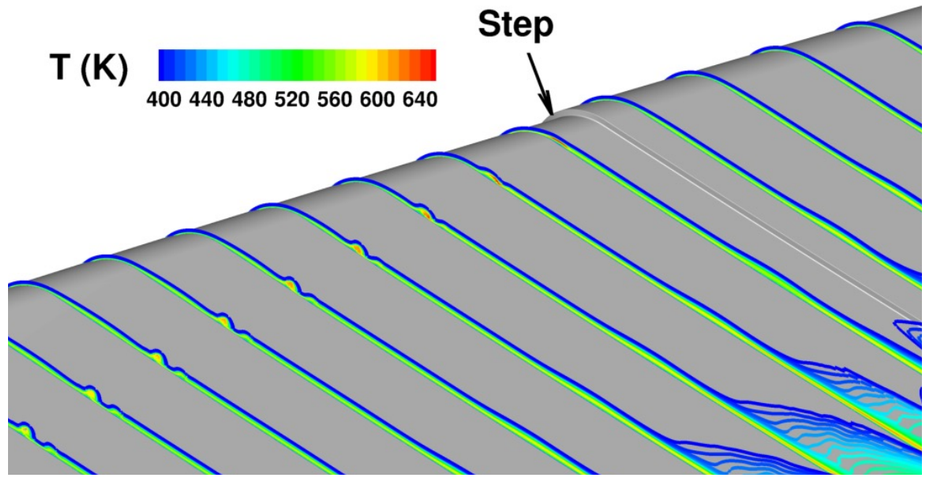
Caution:

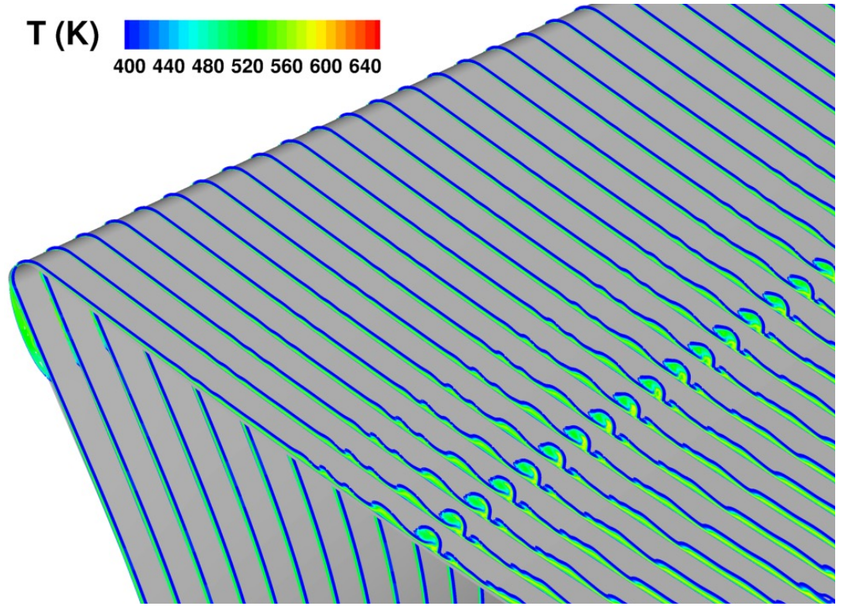
- Critical N-factor likely to vary with type of instability!
- Surface roughness effects (neglected herein) likely to be significant for CF and sideline streaks

Effect of Backward Facing Step (FA3)

M = 5.25, Re = 9.98M/m
Step location: x =0.18415 m
k = 0.533 mm
$k/\delta \approx 1.4$ near leading edge

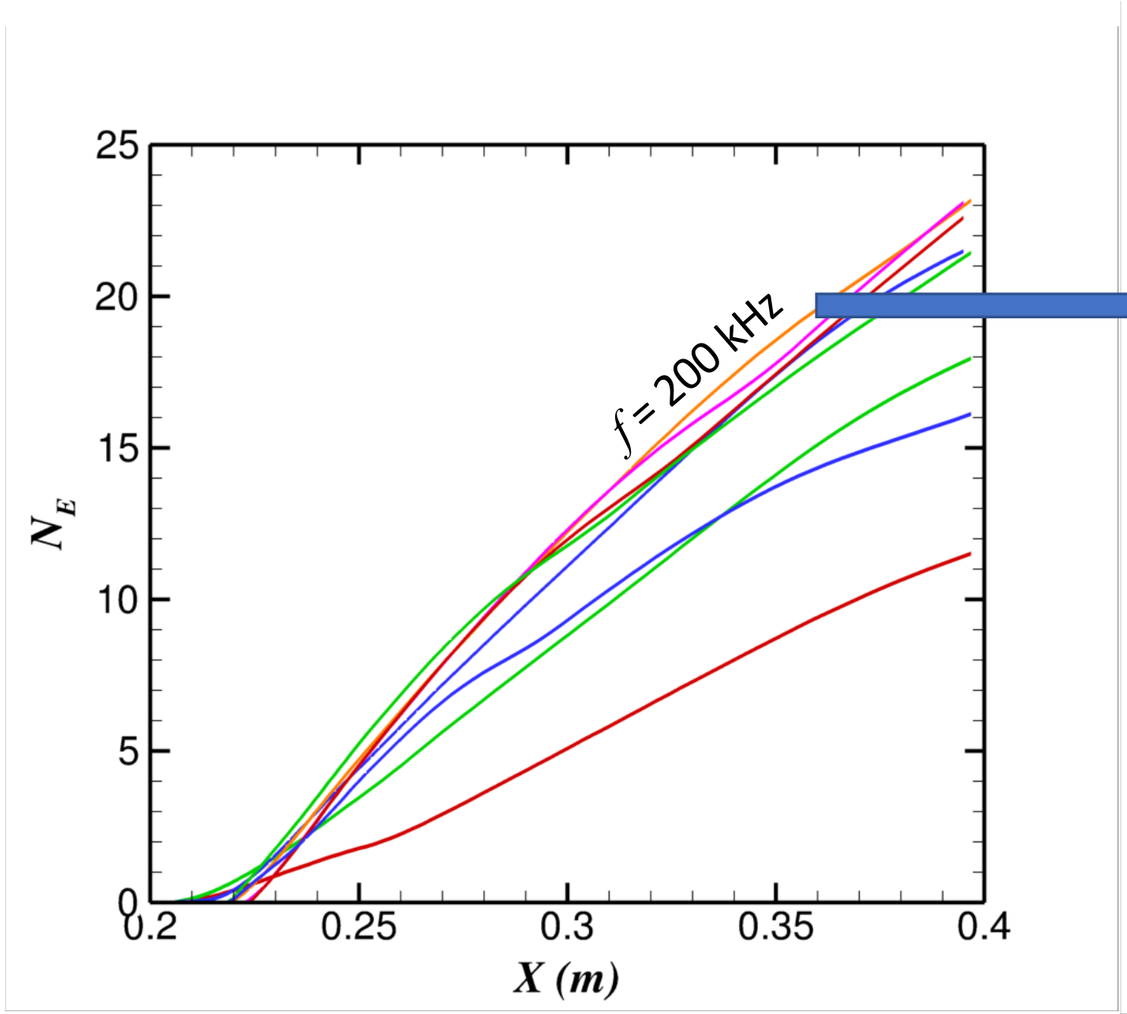


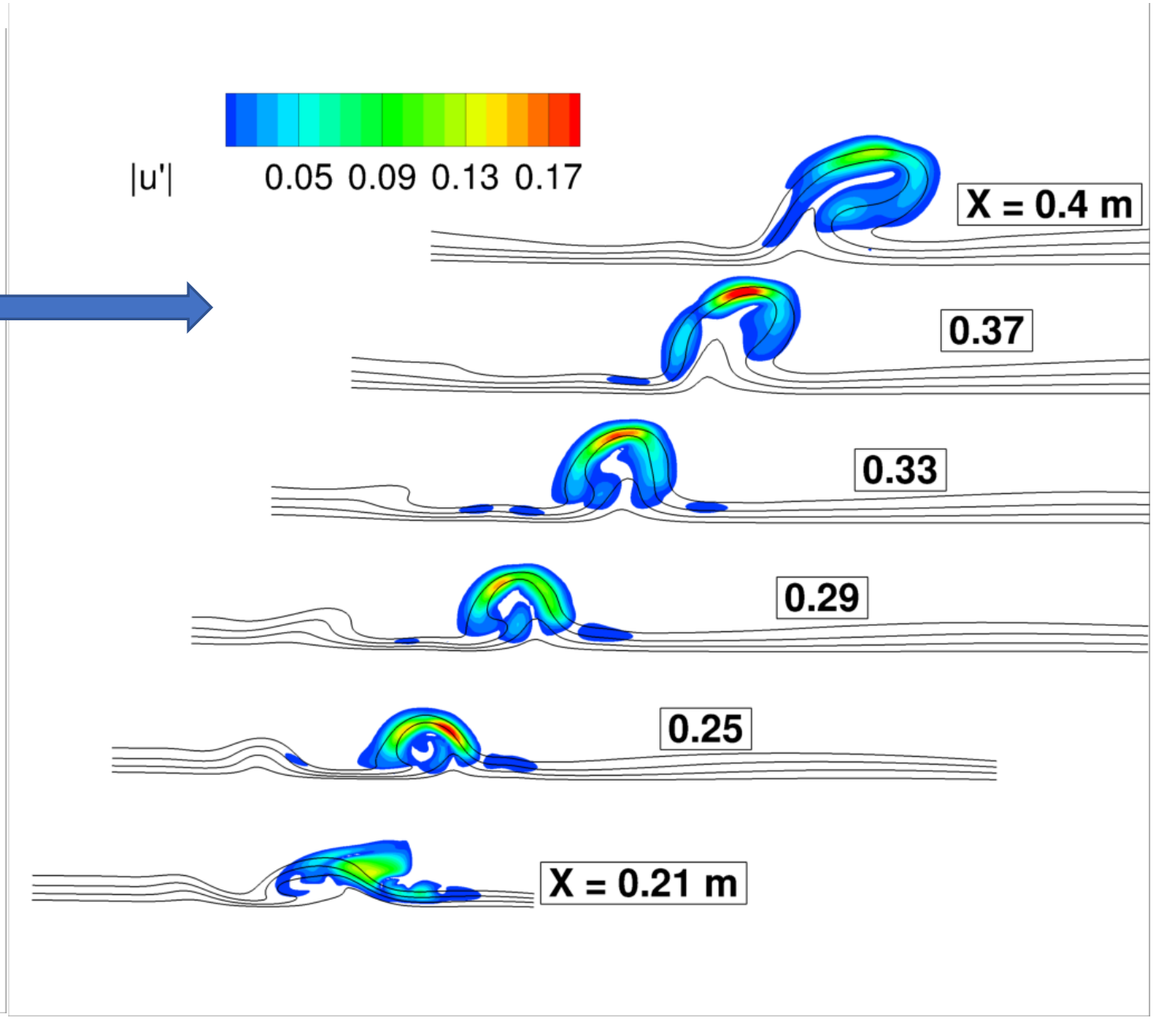




- Backward facing step leads to emergence of streak from the corner near the intersection with the LE
  - ➢ Will induce streak instabilities analogous to those due to naturally occurring streaks within acreage region
- Ongoing computations for additional step parameters

Streak Instability Characteristics of Step Vortex

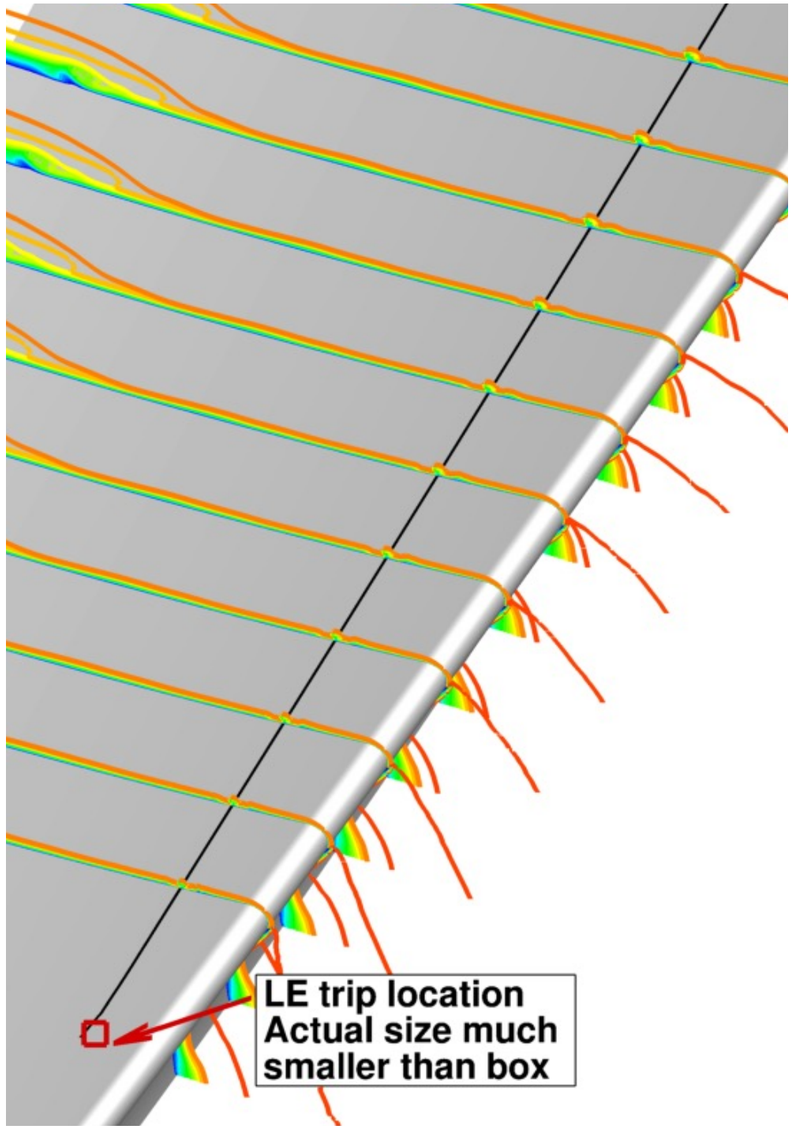


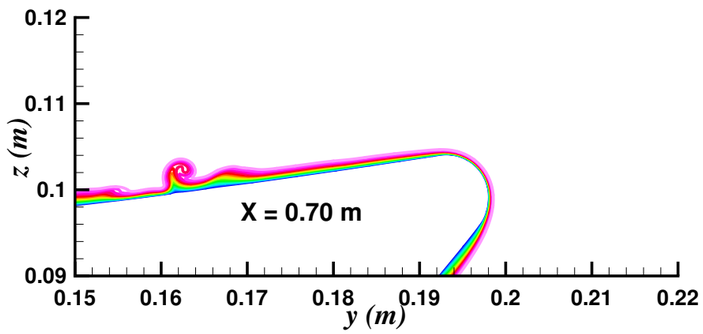


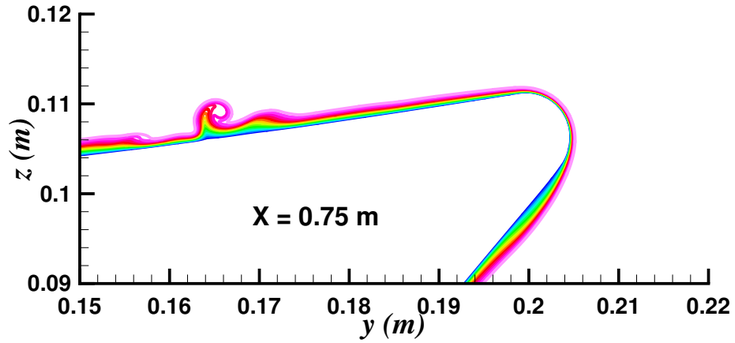
Flow Conditions: Secondary Surface BOLT-II Flight Configuration

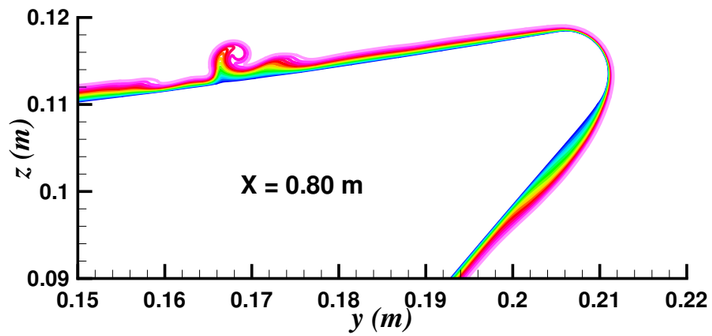
	M	Re (10^6/m)	P (Pa)	T (K)	T_w (K)
Descent (preflight)	5.44	2.50	1.638e3	225.50	400
Ascent, t = 28 sec	6.23	7.55	3.547e3	212.80	400
Ascent, t = 29 sec	6.17	5.63	2.682e3	213.48	400
Ascent, t = 30 sec	6.11	4.20	2.034e3	214.4	400

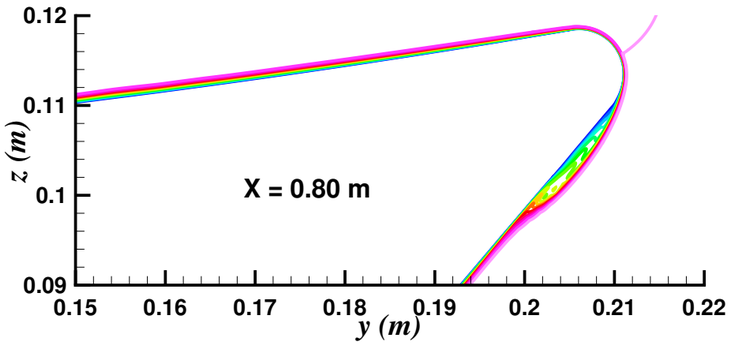
Wake Flow Behind Leading Edge Trip





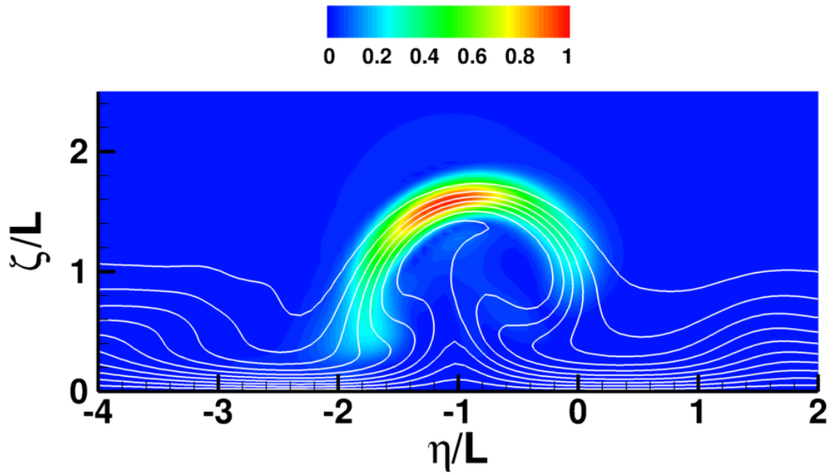




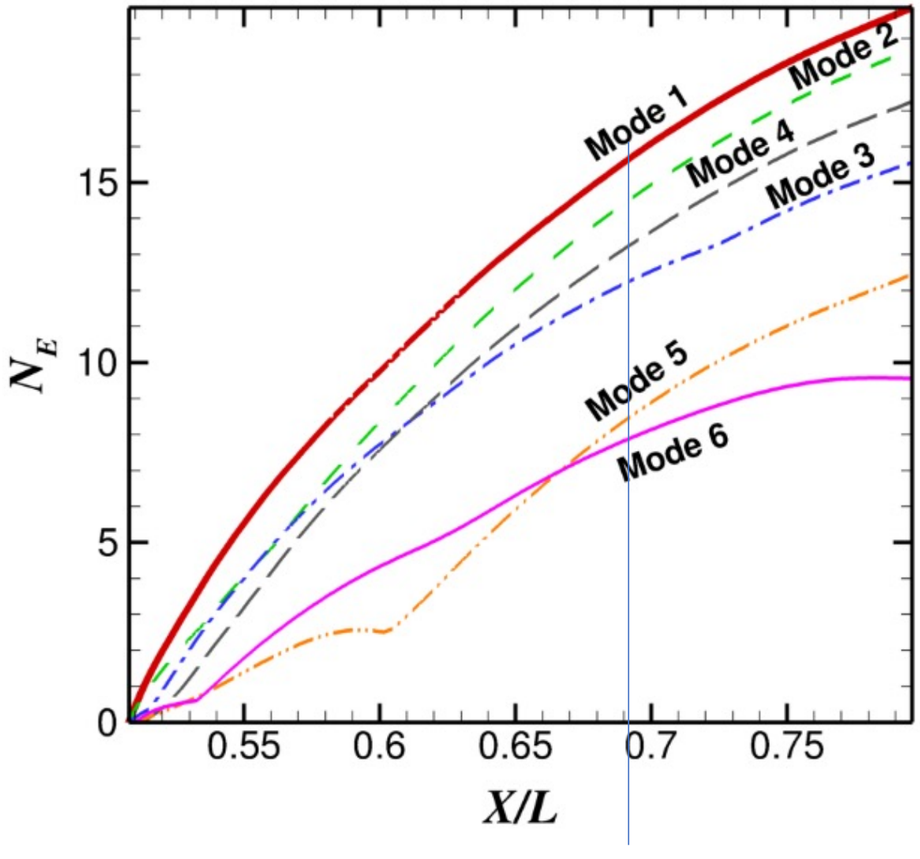


No roughness

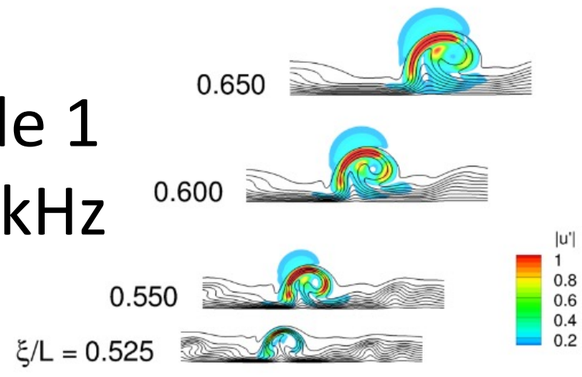
Wake Instability Analysis: Leading Edge Trip (L = 1 m)



X/L = 0.525

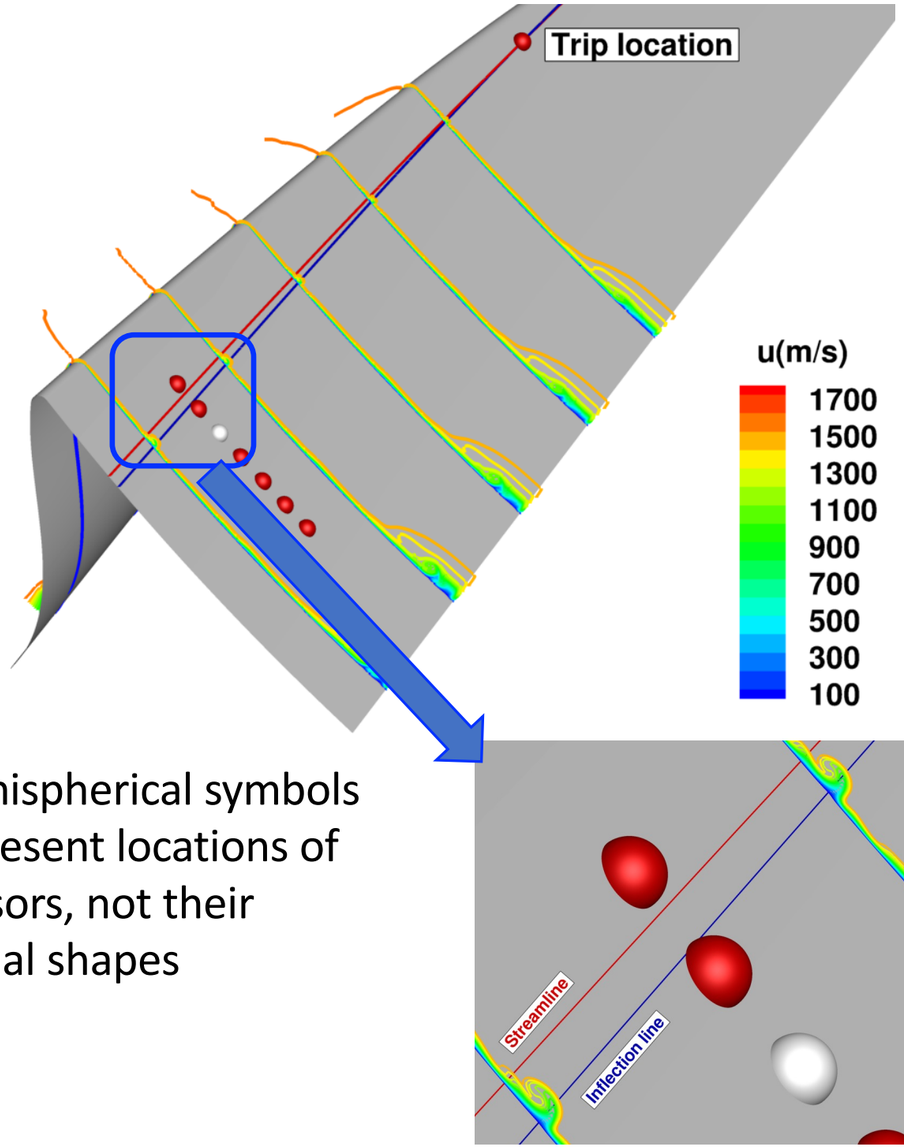


Mode 1
240 kHz

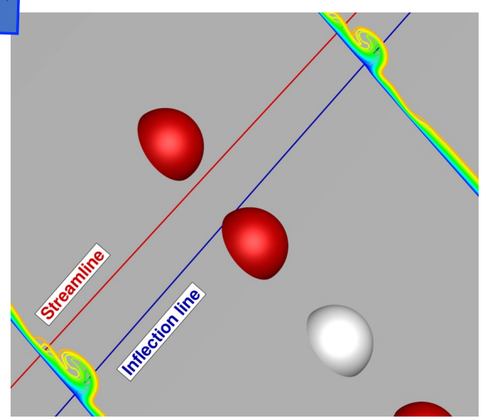


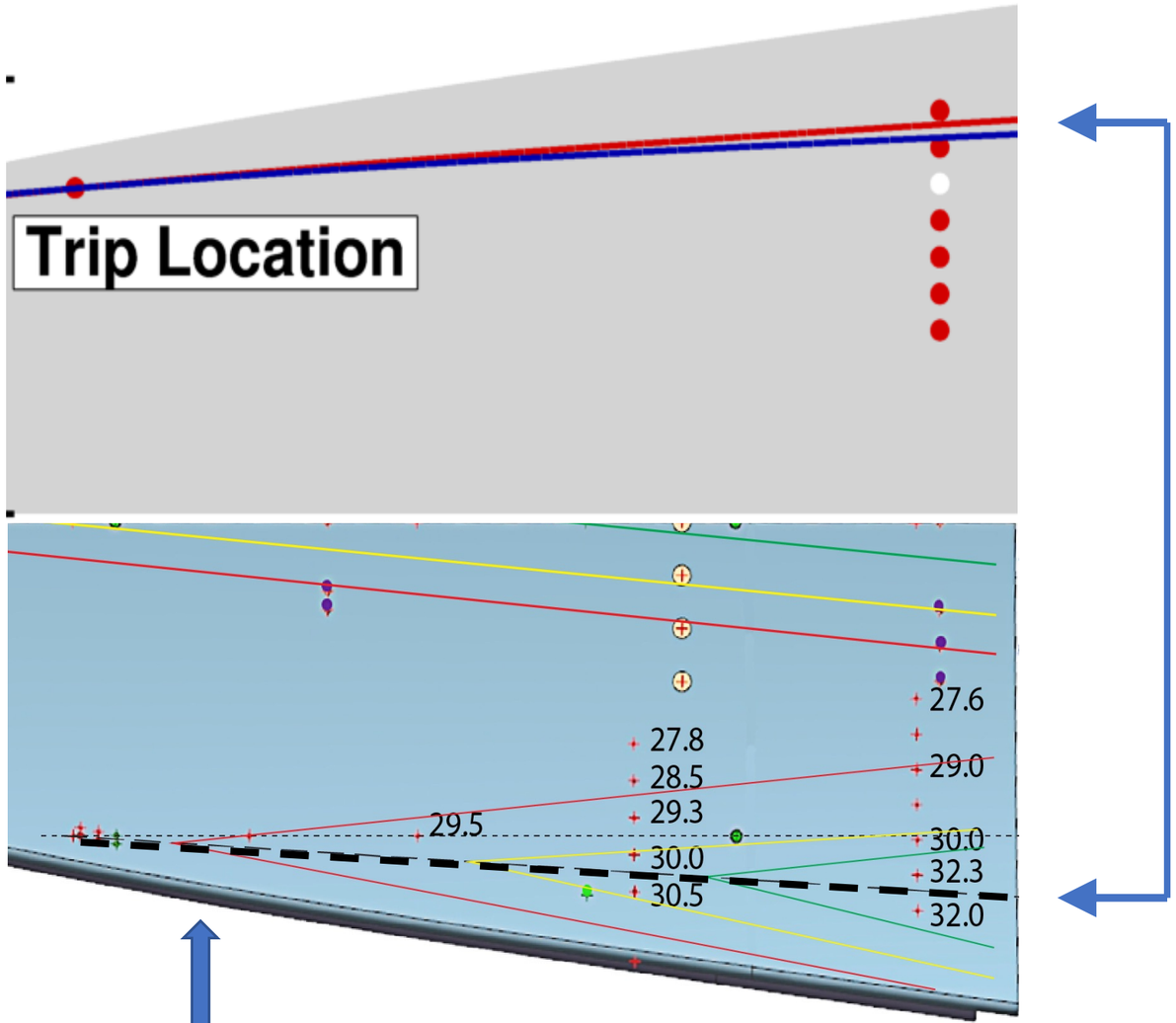
Plane Marching
PSE

Predicted Trip-Wake Trajectories Consistent with Flight Data



Hemispherical symbols represent locations of sensors, not their actual shapes





Preliminary Analysis of Flight Data by Scott Berry

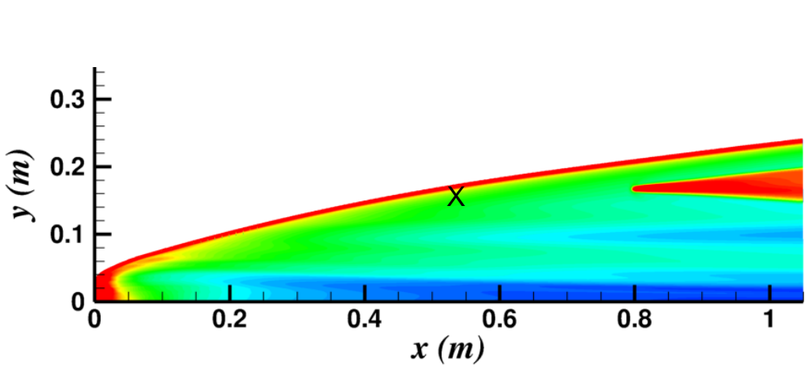
Turbulent Wedges Downstream of Wake Transition Behind Leading-Edge Trip (marked by “x”)

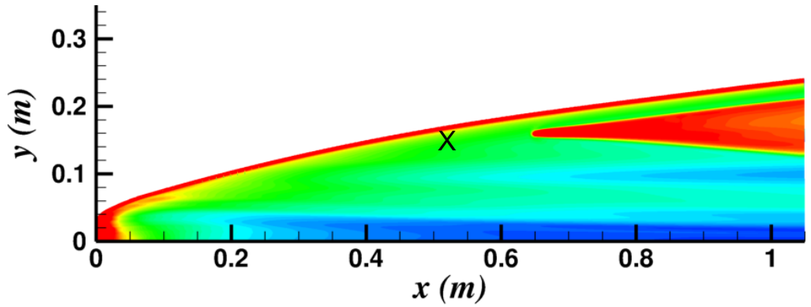
- RANS CFD with localized onset of transition within trip wake

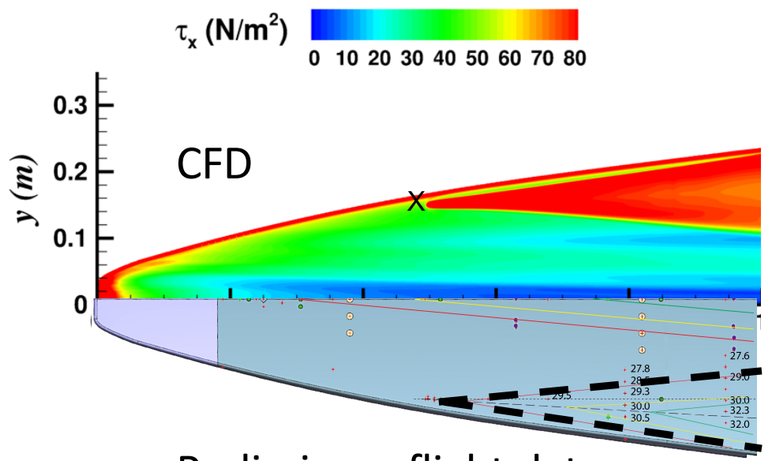
X_{tr} = 0.80 m (incipient)

X_{tr} = 0.65 m (critical)

X_{tr} = 0.50 m (effective trip)







Steady RANS computations by introducing localized source of turbulence at several locations which results in a turbulent wedge.

Preliminary flight data (Berry)

Summary

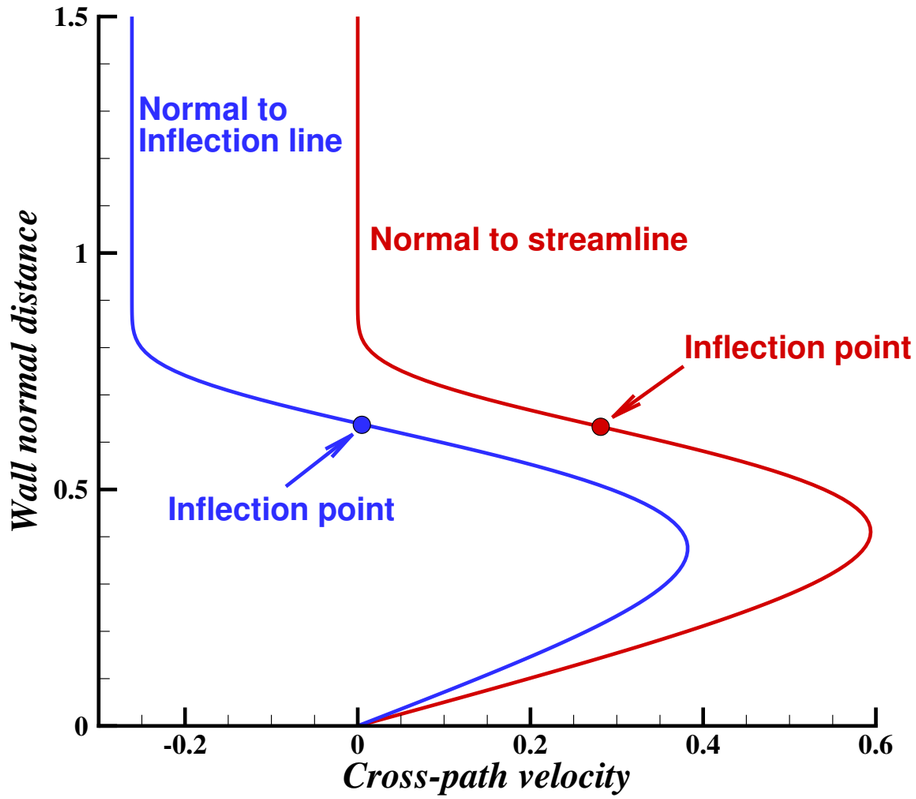
- State of the art tools for computational analysis of BOLT/BOLT-II flight configurations
- Various base flow features and instabilities on (smooth) primary side
  - Streaks become stronger with increasing flight Re and are likely to dominate transition process both in the vicinity of centerline and near the middle of the acreage region
    - Multitude of streak instability modes – hybrid MM/SI and pure SI
    - For BOLT descent case FD4, peak centerline N reaches 14 at x = 0.62 m and acreage streaks achieve N=14 also near x = 0.62 m. Base Flow Features and Instabilities for Secondary Side
- Step excrescence effect:
  - Preliminary computations for a single step height (k = 0.533 mm) indicate the emergence of a prominent streak originating from the intersection of step with the LE.
  - Peak N-factor reaches 14 at x = 0.32 m.
- Base Flow Feature and Instabilities for Secondary Side, Discrete trips
  - Predicted wake trajectory behind LE trip consistent with preliminary flight data
- Need (much) further analysis to improve predictive tools using flight measurements

Acknowledgements

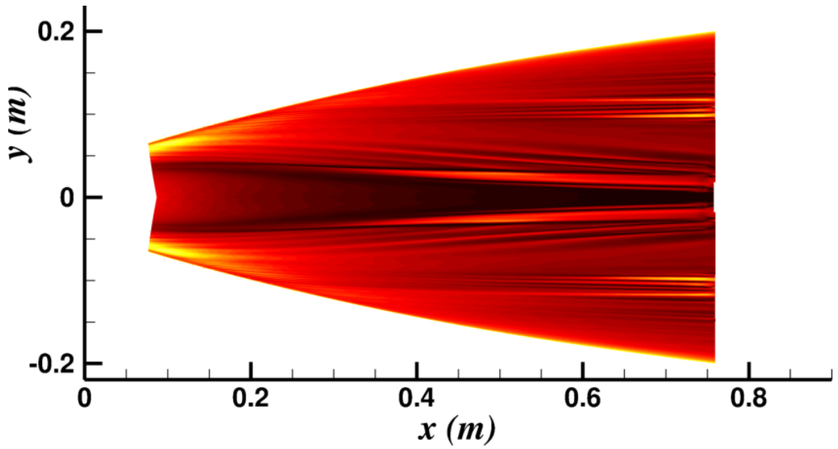
- Supported by NASA Hypersonic Technology Project
- Air Force Office of Scientific Research (Paredes)
- NASA Advanced Supercomputing (NAS)
- People
  - Dr. Frank Greene, NASA Langley, for sharing a basic state grid and solutions based on LAURA.
  - Dr. Robert Baurle and Mr. Jeffery White, NASA Langley, for help with VULCAN code
  - Dr. Daniel Rodriguez for help with grid generation for trips

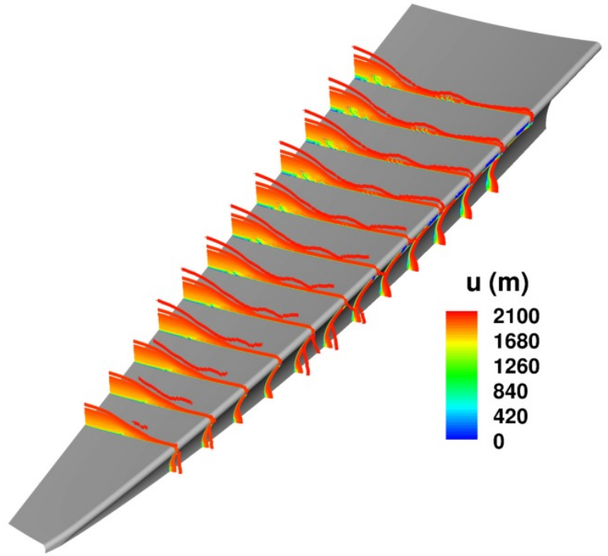
Extra Charts

Inflection Line Illustrated

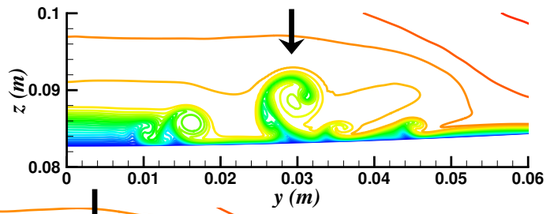


Basic State Features: Case FD4 ($\alpha = \beta = 0$ deg)

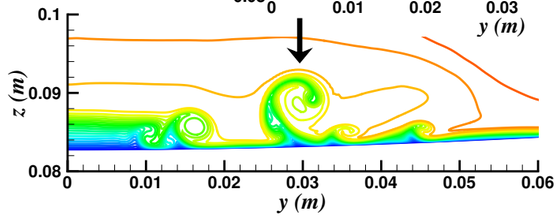




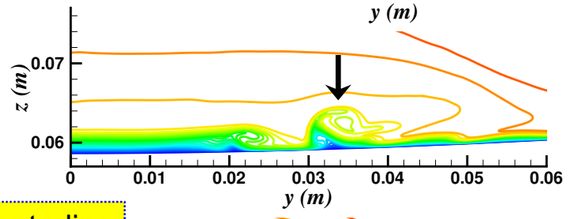
Near Centerline



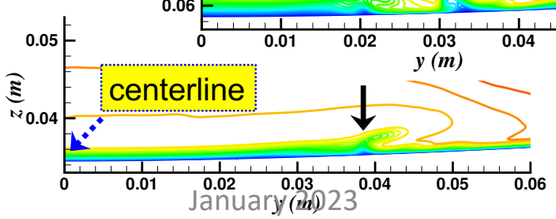
x = 0.75 m



x = 0.65 m

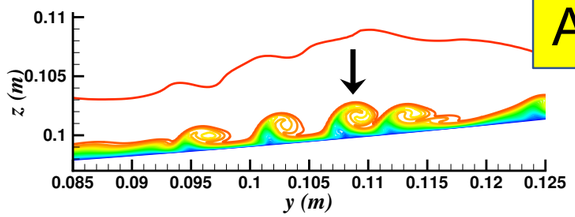


x = 0.45 m

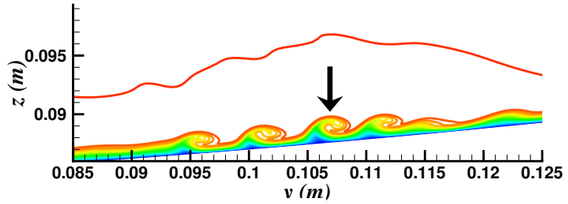


x = 0.25 m

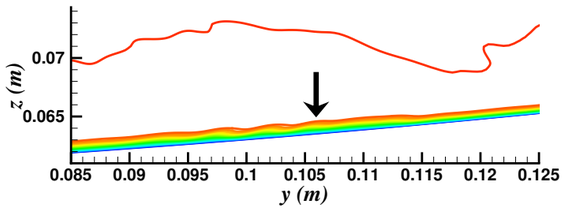
Acreage Region



x= 0.75 m

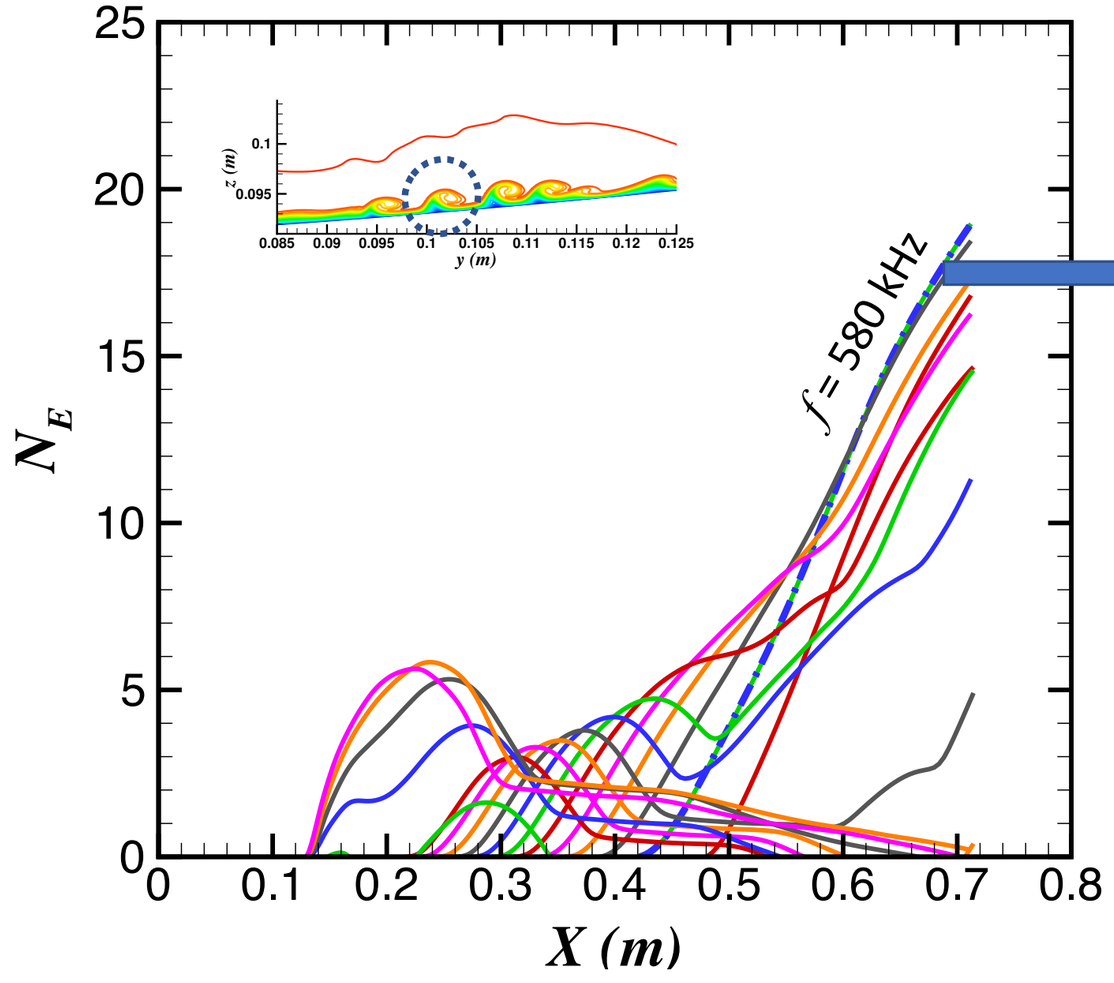


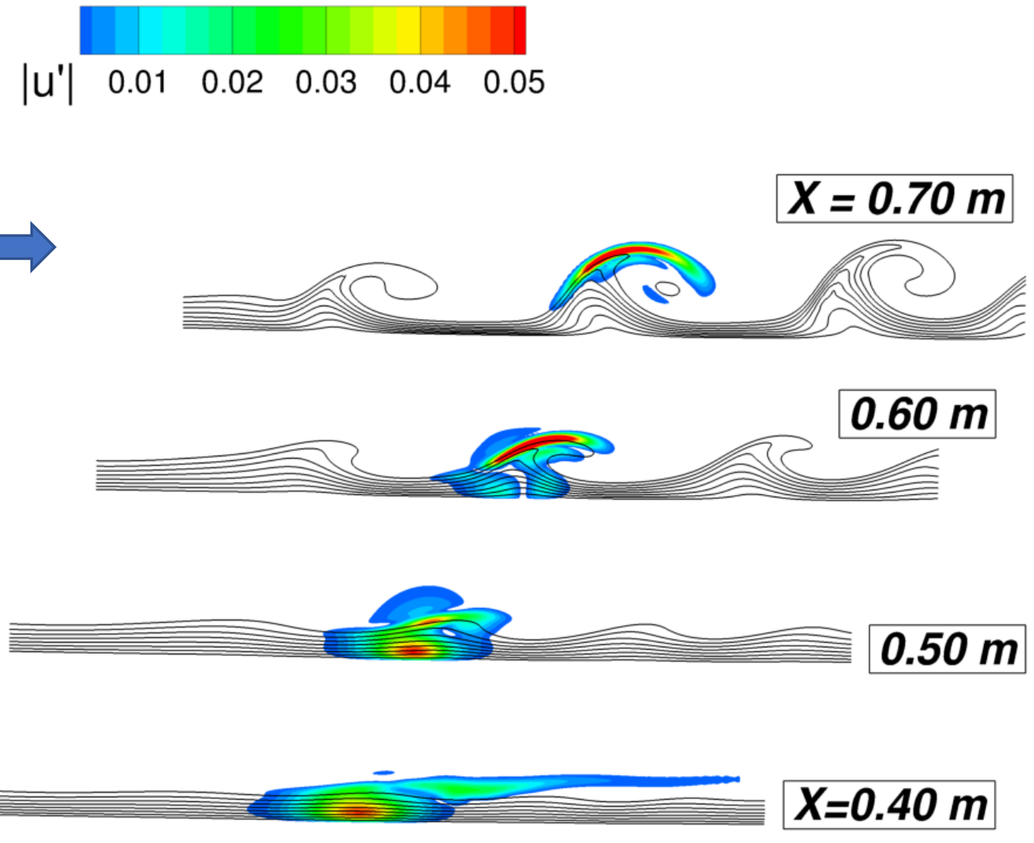
x = 0.65 m



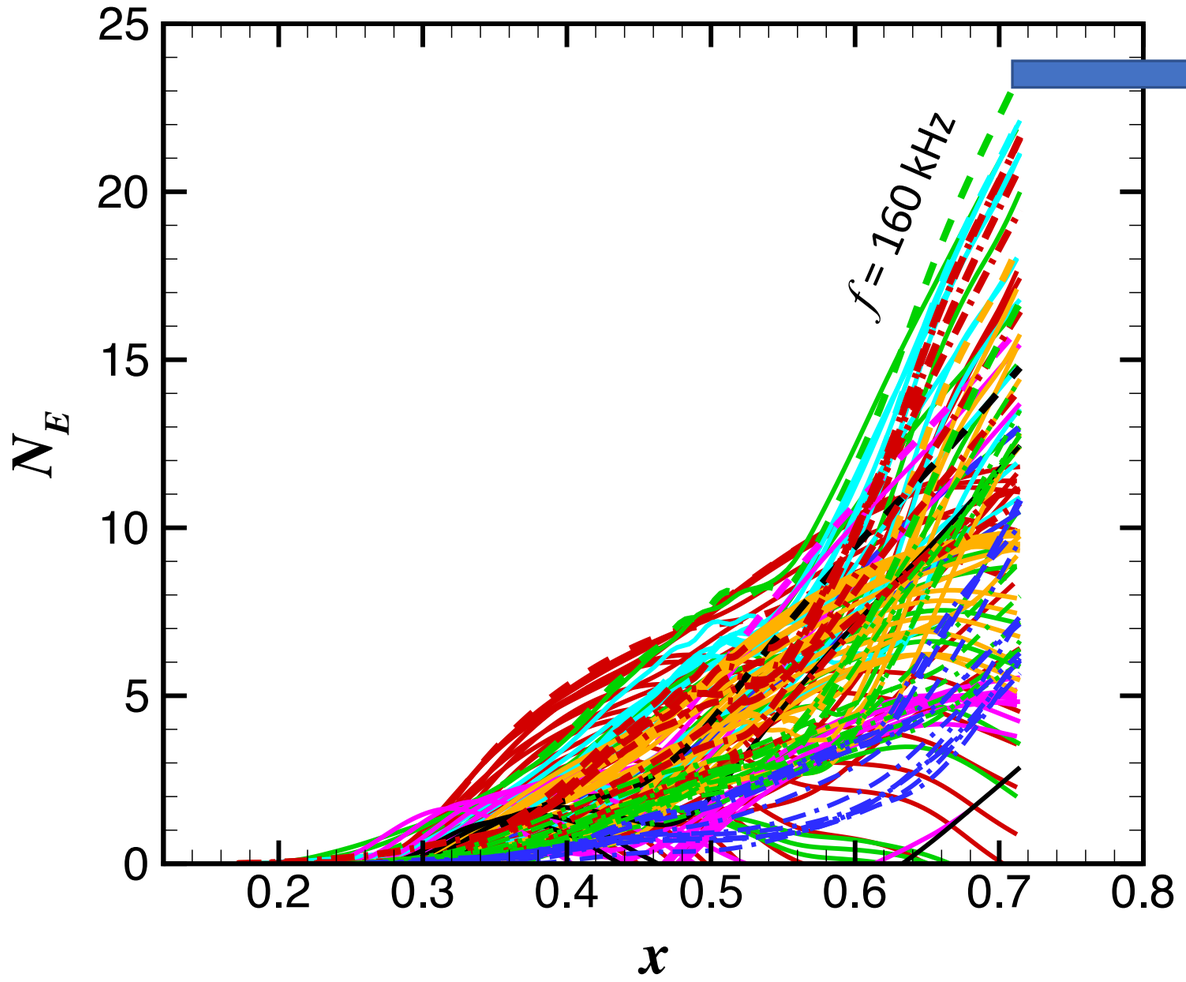
x = 0.45 m

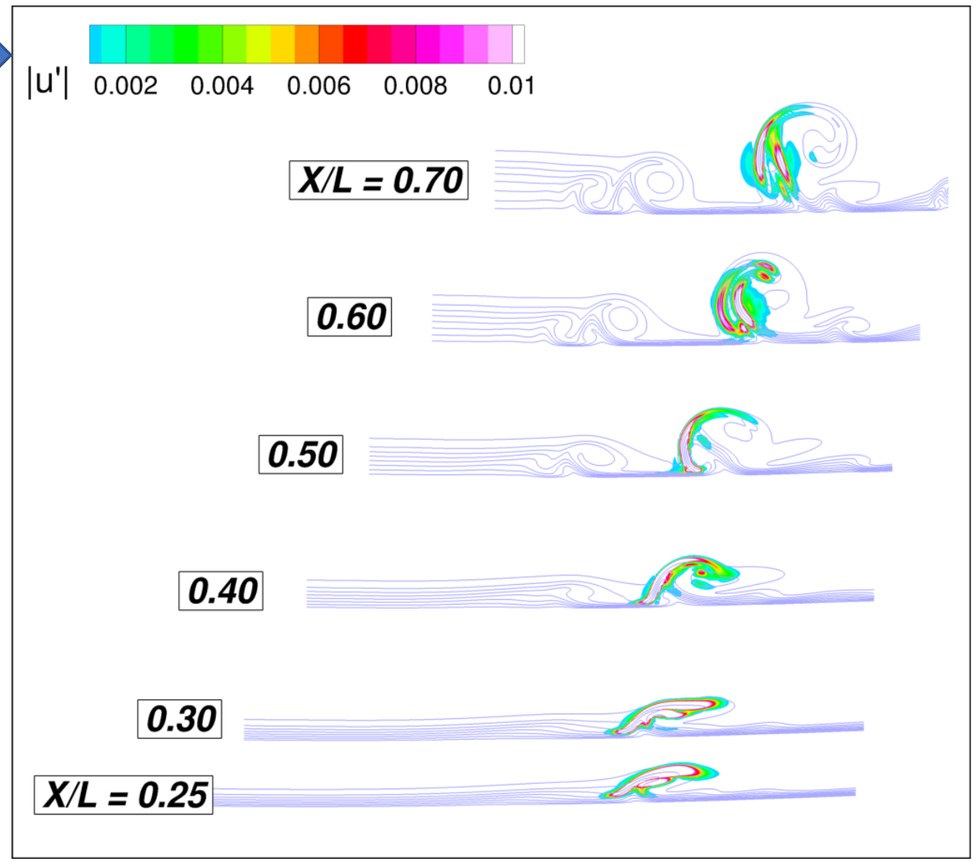
Streak Instability Characteristics in Acreage Region (continued)



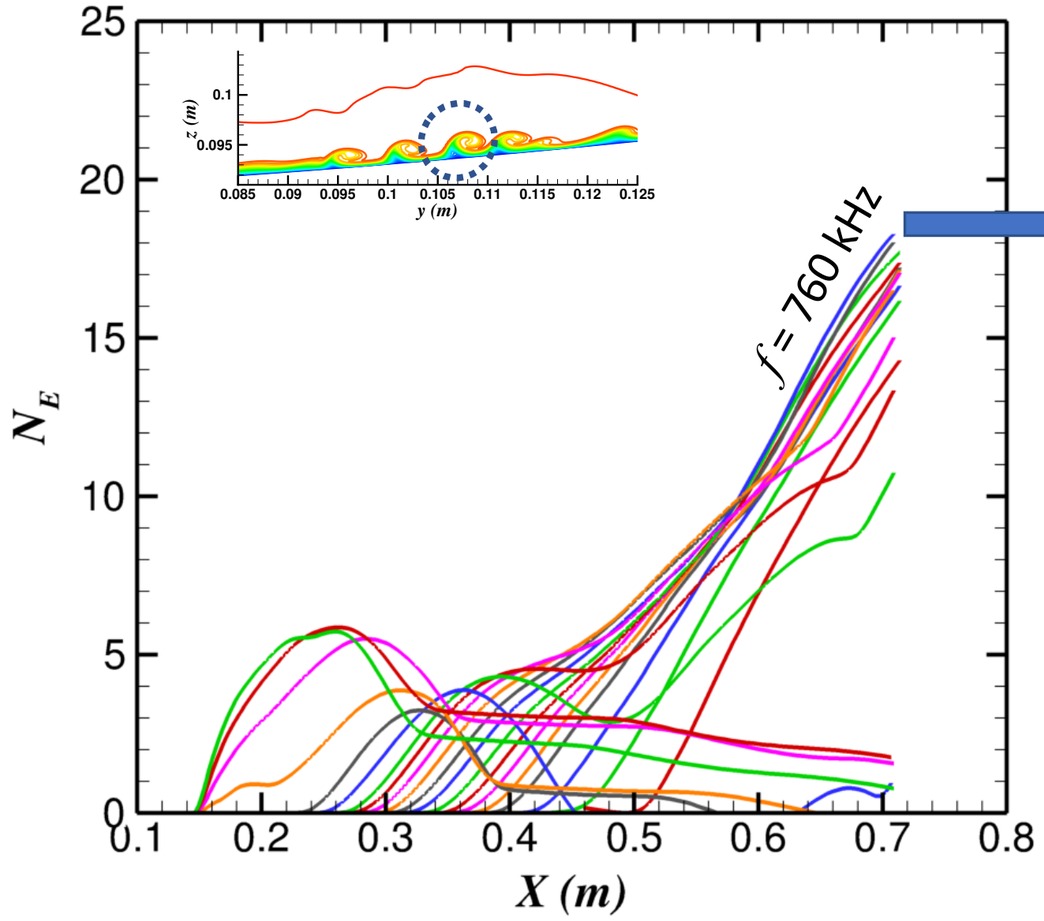


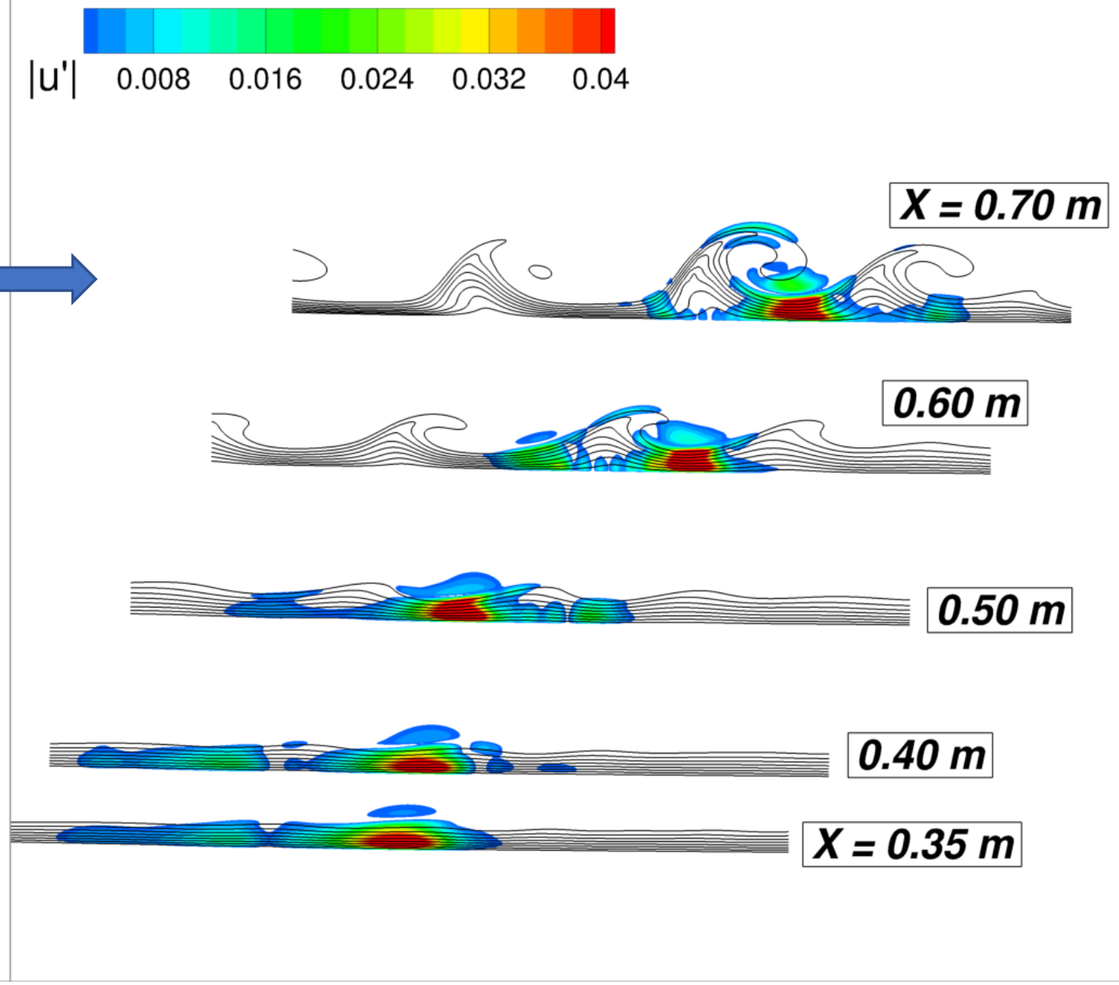
N-Factor Evolution for Streak Instabilities near Centerline

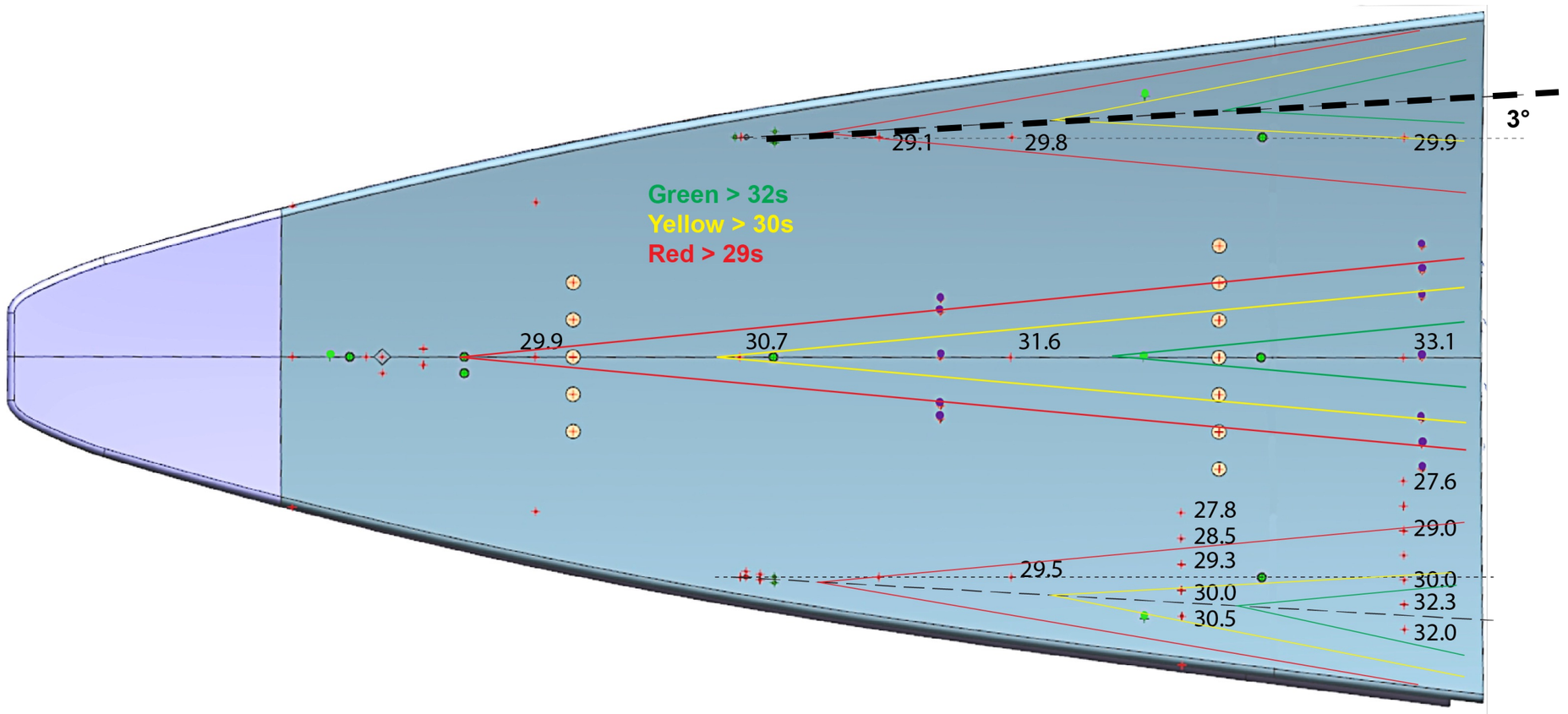




Streak Instability Characteristics in Acreage Region





BOLT-II Secondary Side Transition Patterns Behind Discrete Trips

(Preliminary Analysis of Flight Data by Scott Berry)